GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:377
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005
DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND WATERWAYS
Chakraborty Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is actively considering development of inland waterways from Kolkata to Allahabad for carrying passengers as well as cargo services;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) by when these services are likely to be started?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) The River Ganga from Haldia to Allahabad has been declared as a National Waterway and basic infrastructural facilities such as navigational channel, terminals, navigational aids etc. are being provided for facilitating inland water transport, mainly for cargo transportation. Floating terminals have been provided at Haldia, Kolkata, Karagola, Bhagalpur, Patna, Chunar, Varanasi and Allahabad and permanent terminals at Haldia, Kolkata, Pakur and Farakka.

(c) Fixed Schedule Cargo Transportation Services are already operational between Haldia and Patna.